

VZCZCXYZ0009
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHMO #1187 1320326
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 120326Z MAY 09
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO RUEHRC/USDA FAS WASHDC PRIORITY 5485
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 3210
INFO RUEHVI/AMEMBASSY VIENNA 4752
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 5312

UNCLAS MOSCOW 001187

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

USDA FAS FOR OCRA/KUYPERS, RIKER; OSTA/BEAN,
HAMILTON, HAXTON; ONA/TING, SALLYARDS
PASS FSIS DUTROW, HARRIES
PASS APHIS BURLESON
STATE FOR EUR/RUS
STATE PASS USTR FOR CHATTIN, HAFNER, MURPHY
BRUSSELS PASS APHIS/FERNANDEZ
VIENNA PASS APHIS/MITCHELL

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [EAGR](#) [ETRD](#) [ECON](#) [WTO](#) [RS](#)
SUBJECT: RUSSIA MAINTAINS RESTRICTIONS ON U.S.
MEAT AND POULTRY

REF: A) HANSEN/MITCHELL EMAIL 05/07/09, B) MOSCOW
1161, C) MOSCOW 1150

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

¶1. (SBU) SUMMARY: The Russian Federal Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance Service (VPSS) advised via official letter that restrictions placed on meat and poultry products from 8 U.S. states are in place. As of today, California, New York, Texas, South Carolina, Delaware and (most recently) Illinois are restricted from exporting all types of fresh/frozen meat and poultry products to Russia. In addition, temporarily restricts are still in place on all fresh/frozen pork and pork products from Arizona, Massachusetts and South Carolina. The original scanned copy of the letter and courtesy translation were sent to FAS/APHIS on May 7, 2009 (REF A). An informal embassy translation of the letter follows. END SUMMARY.

¶2. (SBU) BEGIN TEXT:
Moscow, May 6, 2009
FS-NV-2/4294

Regional Director
USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
(APHIS) In the European Union
Mr. Jay Mitchell

The Federal Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance Service (VPSS) extends its regards to USDA/APHIS and informs you of the following:

Due to new information on the epizootic/epidemiological situation in the United States regarding the spread of Influenza A H1N1 California/04/2009, VPSS is forced to restrict imports of all types of fresh/frozen meat and poultry, as well as all processed meat and poultry products that have not been heat-treated at a minimum temperature of 80 degrees Celsius for at least 30 minutes, from Illinois that are manufactured and packaged after May 6, 2009.

This means that Illinois is now in the Zone 1 risk level group.

As of May 6, 2009, South Carolina has been downgraded to the Zone 2 risk group. Therefore, the restrictions to South Carolina are limited to the export of live pigs, fresh and frozen pork and pork products, and processed pork products that have not been heat-treated at a minimum temperature of 80 degrees Celsius for at least 30 minutes, from this state to the Russian Federation. The prohibition covers pork products manufactured and packaged after May 6, 2009.

Mr. Mitchell, let me assure you of my highest esteem.

N.A. Vlasov
Deputy Head
END TEXT.

RUBIN